



Chaffee County Commissioners Meeting
October 8, 2024

These minutes have been taken remotely via Zoom. Some County staff, representatives from other governments and government agencies, and others from the public may attend, including participating in the public hearing portion of the meeting, remotely via Zoom.

A. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on October 8, 2024, at the Chaffee County Courthouse. Board members present were Chair P. T. Wood, Commissioner Keith Baker, and Commissioner Greg Felt.

Others present in person were County Administrator Don Reimer, Deputy County Administrator Beth Helmke, Director of Finance Dan Short, Deputy County Attorney Lynda Knowles and Planning Director Miles Cottom.

Others present remotely were Planner Brandon Wolff, and Deputy County Clerks Kit Kuester and Ray Milstein.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chair Wood called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. Approve Agenda
Commissioner Baker moved to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Felt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Review Public Meeting List
The Board reviewed the public meeting list.
4. Public Comment
Chair Wood asked for public comment. He stated that you'll have up to 3 minutes to speak, and please give your name and address for the record.

Public Comment was given by:

Scott Hughes, 948 W. 2nd St., Salida.

Joe Cooper, 9325 County Road 160, Salida.

B. Minutes for Approval

1. Consider for Approval the Minutes of the October 1, 2024 Regular Meeting.
Commissioner Felt moved to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2024 Commissioners' Regular meeting. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Baker moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Felt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Pay the Bills
2. Approve the Veteran's Service Officer's Monthly Report for September 2024

D. Hearing Consent Agenda - Agenda Items are listed on the Hearing Consent Agenda because no testimony is expected. In the event a Commissioner or any member of the public wishes to testify regarding an item on the Consent Agenda, the item will be removed and considered with the Regular Agenda. These items, if approved, will include signing authority to the Chair of the Board on the related Resolution(s).

Chair Wood stated that these items are those that would normally require a hearing, but no public testimony is expected. In the event a Commissioner or any member of the public wishes to testify regarding an item on the Consent Agenda, the item will be removed and considered with the Regular Agenda. These items, if approved, will include signing authority to the Chair of the Board on the related Resolution(s).

Chair Wood asked if anyone from the public wished to testify on this/these item(s). There was no public comment.

Commissioner Felt moved to approve the Hearing Consent Agenda. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Hearing to Consider the Liquor License Renewal for Station 24 Cafe LLC, DBA Station 24 Cafe, at 12867 US Hwy 24/285, Buena Vista, CO 81211

E. Contracts/Grant Consideration

1. Consider grant application from Central Mountain Small Business Development Center (SBDC) to Freeport McMoRan for Women's Development grant program - Jamie Billesbach, SBDC Director

Jamie Billesbach, SBDC Director, addressed the Board to consider endorsing the grant application from Central Mountain Small Business Development Center (SBDC) to Freeport McMoRan for the Women's Development grant program.

Commissioner Baker moved to endorse the grant application from Central Mountain Small Business Development Center (SBDC) to Freeport McMoRan for the Women's Development grant program. Commissioner Felt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Discuss Request for Letter of Support for Visionary Broadband for their pursuit of a BEAD Grant for increased wireless service for Chaffee County - Brian Shepherd, Visionary Boardband

Deputy County Administrator Helmke addressed the Board to consider the request for a Letter of Support for Visionary Broadband for their pursuit of a BEAD Grant for increased wireless service for Chaffee County.

Brian Shepherd, VP Community Engagement, Visionary Broadband, addressed the board and answered Commissioners' questions.

Commissioner Felt moved to approve the request for a Letter of Support for Visionary Broadband for their pursuit of a BEAD Grant for increased wireless and wire service for Chaffee County. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Consider selection of contractor in response to RFP solicitation: "Poncha Pass Private Douglas-fir Beetle Salvage Service Work" facilitated in partnership with Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) - Andy Lerch, CSFS; B. Helmke

Deputy County Administrator Helmke addressed the Board to consider the selection of a contractor, Beetle-Kill Tree Guys, in response to the Request For Proposal (RFP) solicitation: "Poncha Pass Private Douglas-fir Beetle Salvage Service Work" facilitated in partnership with Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS).

Andy Lerch, Lead Forester, Colorado State Forest Service, addressed the board remotely.

Commissioner Felt moved to approve the selection of a contractor, in response to RFP solicitation: "Poncha Pass Private Douglas-fir Beetle Salvage Service Work," and that we accept the bid by Beetle Kill Tree Guys not to exceed \$100,000 facilitated in partnership with Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) and direct staff to draft the contract and get this under way. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Consider request for letter of support for National Forest Foundation's grant application to Colorado State Forest Service Fire Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM) Grant Program - B Helmke

Deputy County Administrator Helmke addressed the Board to consider the request for a Letter of Support for the National Forest Foundation's grant application to the Colorado State Forest Service Fire Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM) Grant Program.

Commissioner Baker moved to issue a Letter of Support for the National Forest Foundation's grant application to the Colorado State Forest Service Fire Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM) Grant Program. Commissioner Felt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Consider Providing Letter of Support for the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for the acquisition of a USGS Next Generation Water Observing System (NGWOS) for snow pack monitoring - Beth Helmke / Commissioner Greg Felt

Deputy County Administrator Helmke and Commissioner Felt addressed the Board to consider providing a Letter of Support to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for the acquisition of a USGS Next Generation Water Observing System (NGWOS) for snow pack monitoring.

Commissioner Felt moved to provide a Letter of Support to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for the acquisition of a USGS Next Generation Water Observing System (NGWOS) for

snow pack monitoring. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Consider approval of technology hardware package purchases (from the owner-supplied items list) for the new County Public Safety Complex facility - B. Helmke; D. Gallegos

Deputy County Administrator Helmke addressed the Board to consider approval of the technology hardware package purchases (from the owner-supplied items list), not to exceed \$60,000, for the new County Public Safety Complex facility.

Commissioner Baker moved to approve the technology hardware package purchases (from the owner-supplied items list), not to exceed \$60,000, for the new County Public Safety Complex facility. Commissioner Felt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Regular Agenda Items

1. **Public Hearing to Consider a Special Event Permit**

Name of Event: August 2025 Concert at the Meadows Farm

Applicant: Meadow Creek Music LLC

Location of Event: The Meadows Farm, 14822 CR 350, Buena Vista

Date of Event: August 14-18th, 2025

Maximum # of Attendees: 9,000 plus 600 staff

Planners: Nick Gomer and Miles Cottom / 719.530.5572 / ngomer@chaffeecounty.org

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Planning Manager Cottom addressed the Board to discuss consideration of approval of the Special Events Permit for Meadow Creek music LLC and South Main Arts & Parks Trust for the August 2025 Concert at The Meadows Farm from August 14th through 18th, 2025.

Chris Allman, 26 Riverside Court, Avon, on behalf of Meadow Creek Music and South Main Arts & Parks Trust, along with Michael Sampliner, 7 Aspen Hill, Crested Butte and Jed Selby, property owner of the Meadows Farm venue, addressed the Board and answered Commissioner's questions. Sampliner clarified the maximum number of attendees is 9,000 and a maximum of 10,000 on Sunday.

Chair Wood asked for public comment. He stated that you'll have up to 3 minutes to speak, and please give your name and address for the record.

Public Comment was given by:

Marjo Curgis, Interim Executive Director, Chaffee Housing Authority, 230 W 16th Street, Suite C., Salida.

Lane Willson, 528 D St, Salida.

Presenters online included:

Tom McCracken, 1665 Burt Gulch, Nathrop.

Chair Wood closed the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Baker moved to approve the application for the August 14th to 18th, 2025 concert at Meadows Farm, and that the South Main Arts & Parks Trust is the awardee of the application, with the understanding that there might be modifications to the permit; and we direct staff to prepare a resolution outlining findings and condition of the Board's decision. Commissioner Felt seconded the motion, with the condition that the Board hears a final request on November 15, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Update from Chaffee County Early Childhood Council on Childcare Workforce Development program and forecasted request for 2025 - Sarah Romack, Chaffee County Early Childhood Council

Sarah Romack, Director of Chaffee County Early Childhood Council updated the Board on the Childcare Workforce Development Program.

Betsy Dittenber, Executive Director, Chaffee County Community Foundation, addressed the Board online.

Discussion ensued.

No formal action was taken.

3. Discussion and Public Comment regarding right-of-way, use, and maintenance of County Road 191 - Miles Cottom / Nick Gomer

Director Cottom addressed the Board regarding right-of-way, use, and maintenance of County Road 191.

Chair Wood asked for public comment. He stated that you'll have up to 3 minutes to speak, and please give your name and address for the record.

Public Comment was given by:

Casey Pridemore, 12893 County Road 191, Salida.

Gerald Middleton, 12305 County Road 191A, Salida.

Susan Secrest, 12448 Gold Water Cir, Salida.

Tom Rodden, 12350 County Road 291A, Salida.

Gayla Daniels, 12524 Gold Water Circle, Salida.

Lore Oliver, 12577 County Road 195A, Salida.

Lyndon Zielke, 12524 Gold Water Cir, Salida.

Chair Wood closed the public comment portion of this meeting.

Discussion ensued.

No formal action was taken.

4. Consider Resolution 2024-68 to appoint Lynda Knowles as Interim County Attorney - Commissioner P.T. Wood

Chair Wood addressed the Board to consider Resolution 2024-68 to appoint Lynda Knowles as Interim County Attorney.

Commissioner Felt moved to approve Resolution 2024-68 to appoint Lynda Knowles as Interim County Attorney. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Active Projects

H. Adjourn the Regular Meeting

There being no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Mitchell". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Lori Mitchell, County Clerk